PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:

SCHNATTERER, et al.

Examiner: Unassigned

Serial No.:

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Group Art Unit: Unassigned

(based on PCT/EP00/06997)

Filed:

Herewith

Docket: 442-136 PCT/US

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Dated: March 6, 2002

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EXPRESS MAIL CERTIFICATE

Date: <u>March 6, 2002</u> Label No. <u>EL922101323 US</u>
I hereby certify that on the date indicated above, I deposited paper or fee with the U.S. Postal Service and that it was addressed for delivery to the Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 by "EXPRESS MAIL Post Office to Addressee" Service.

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

CARLA BRYAN

Name (Print)

Signature

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98. Each of the references preceded by an (*) were listed in the International Search Report issued in the corresponding International Application. A copy of the International Search Report is being filed concurrently herewith. An English Abstract is also being provided for the citations followed by: (Abstract).

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

COUNTRY	PATENT NO.	ISSUE DATE
Germany	19808548 A1 (Abstract)	September 2, 1999
*Germany	29903330 U1	August 5, 1999
*EPO	0540488 A1	May 5, 1993
*Japan	61055400 (Abstract)	January 14, 1991
*Japan	06185499 (Abstract)	March 19, 1986

The above-referenced documents are listed on PTO Form 1449. We have enclosed the cited documents to facilitate reference to them.

Applicants are not aware of any other references to be identified at this time. If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

Anthony E. Bennett Registration No.: 40,910 Attorney for Applicant(s)

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GWB/AEB/cb

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U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER DOCUMENT** SUB DATE NAME CLASS FILING DATE NUMBER INITIAL CLASS IF APPROPRIATE FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS **EXAMINER** DOCUMENT SUB TRANSLATION **COUNTRY** CLASS DATE NUMBER INITIAL **CLASS** YES NO Abstract 19808548 A1 09/02/99 Germany 29903330 U1 08/05/99 Germany 0540 488 A1 05/05/93 06185499 01/14/91 Japan Abstract 61055400 03/19/86 Japan Abstract OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.